

City of Socorro

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Volume 2, No. 9

September 2009

STOP! SLOW DOWN!

It's good advice for all of us, but especially important now that school has started and Socorro's children are headed for the classroom.

"We're committed to enforcing traffic laws. People have to follow the traffic code in Socorro," says Mayor Ravi Bhasker. He notes that kids are being encouraged to walk and ride their bikes and, in the interest of safety, reminds all of us, "If you have to be somewhere, start a little earlier and drive safely!"

Rabbits and Poultry and Pigs, oh my!

And a parade and a carnival and a dance and art, vegetables, quilts, bread, funnel cakes, pancakes, rodeos, princesses—it's the Socorro County Fair and it's coming to the fairgrounds near you! Much of it is free, and there is plenty to see and do for the whole family, so let's talk specifics!

Where: Socorro County Fairgrounds south of town off highway 1
When: September 3-5
What: well....

If you want to participate, you can bake a cake or loaf of bread, pick a tomato or pumpkin, enter the sweater you knitted last winter or the wall hanging you quilted with Aunt Jane. If you're an artist, there's an exhibit for you. Floral arranger or gardener? Enter the horticulture exhibit.

Entries are accepted Wednesday afternoon 3pm to 6pm and Thursday morning from 7am to 9am.

Judging will take place soon thereafter, and you can come see how many ribbons you and your friends and neighbors have won beginning Thursday afternoon at 1:00 for the art exhibit, 3:00 for everything else. Friday and Saturday it all opens at 10:00 am.



Win a ribbon with your garden produce!

You want entertainment? There is a rodeo and dance both Friday and Saturday nights, tickets at the gate. The rodeo starts immediately following the crowning of this year's queen at 6:30 Friday, and at 9:30 you can dance to the music of Belen-native-country-music-star Damon Gray.

Or you can show off your own talent at the Colgate Country Showdown Saturday at 11:00. The Showdown is "designed to find the most promising country music talent in America and to give these performers a chance to launch their professional music careers." Maybe this is your big chance!

The fiddle contest follows at 1:00.

And what would a County Fair be without a parade? If you want to be IN the parade, you must sign up by 5:00 Friday evening at the Socorro Chamber of Commerce. This year's theme is "Honoring Our Native Heritage."

If you prefer to watch, be on the curb of California Street at 10:00 Saturday morning. You'll see Grand Marshall Dave Pino, all the Queen, Princess and Sweetheart candidates and all the other assorted floats, horses and rodeo regalia wend their way down California Street. If you want more, you can see the Parade of Champions and the Presentation of the Grand Marshall from the rodeo stands Saturday night at 6:30.

And has anyone mentioned food? What would a County Fair be without funnel cakes and (at least in this part of the country) Navajo Tacos, roasted corn on the cob, and pancakes! Saturday morning before the parade, the members of St. Paul's United Methodist Church will be flipping flapjacks at the Fairgrounds as a fundraiser.

You can watch the cowboys on the bucking bulls and broncs, or you can get your own thrills by trying out the Scrambler or the Roll-o-Plane Simulator or challenging your friends to a bungee jump or paintball skirmish at the Carnival.

If animals are more your thing, you can see ribbon-worthy livestock ranging from poultry to rabbits, from steers to lambs, from swine to goats at the livestock barns Thursday through Saturday.

Whatever events you decide to attend or participate in, the 2009 Socorro County Fair is sure to entertain you and your whole family.

Gross receipts: Do you pay it? Should you pay it? How Much? When?

If you are self-employed, a small business owner, or considering either of those options, you should plan to attend the Socorro Chamber of Commerce-sponsored workshop on Gross Receipts. Louis Torres of the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department will talk about how and when to file, exemptions, deductions and all the whats, whys, and wherefores. The workshop is free and will be held Wednesday, September 23 at the Chamber of Commerce on the Plaza. You must reserve your spot by 5:00 pm September 15 by calling Suzanne 835-0424 or emailing her at suzanne@socorro-nm.com.

Mark Your Calendar for October:

- Oct. 3 Blessing of the Animals, Very Large Array Guided Tours, Trinity Site Tours, Oktoberfest, Chile Proppers Model Aircraft Fly
- 9-10 Socorro Fest, Alamo Indian Days
- 10 Sevilleta NWR and LaJoya Open house
- 14-17 Enchanted Skies Star party
- 22-24 49ers Celebration and Parade
- 31 Hamfest

Employee Anniversaries

Deborah Dean

5 years

City Council

Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez

Gordy Hicks

Toby Jaramillo

Donald Monette

Michael Olguin, Jr.

Ernest Pargas, Jr.

Peter D. Romero

Chuck Zimmerly

Ravi Bhasker, Mayor

Pat Salome, City Clerk